

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-14, 20, 21, 42, 43, 59, 62, and 66-68 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 20, 21, 43, 62, 67, and 68 have been amended. Accordingly, after the amendment presented here have been entered, claims 1-10, 12-14, 20, 21, 42, 43, 59, 62, and 66-68 will remain pending.

Support for the amendments to the claims may be found through the specification including the originally filed claims. No new matter has been added.

Any amendments to the claims should in no way be constructed as acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections and were done solely to expedite the prosecution of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or separate applications.

Objection to the Amendment and Response Filed on November 12, 2003

The Examiner has objected to the Amendment and Response filed on 11/12/03 as not being "fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the new set of claims is missing the limitation **"wherein the label is cleavable to give a charged species for mass spectrometry"** in step b)."

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 20, 21, 43, 62, 67 and 68 have been amended to include the limitation **"wherein the label is cleavable to give a charged species for mass spectrometry."** Thus, the reply is now fully responsive to the prior Office Action.

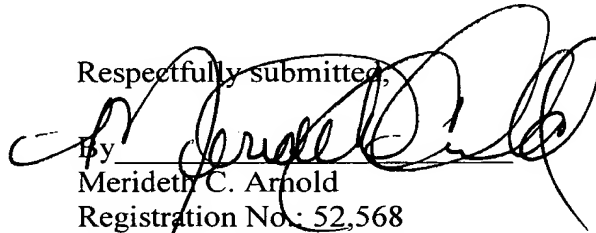
SUMMARY

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. CRW-001US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 23, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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